



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Contact: Kevin Kerstein  
Publicity Manager  
Churchill Downs Racetrack  
(610) 420-6971 (mobile)  
(502) 635-4712 (office)  
[Kevin.Kerstein@KyDerby.com](mailto:Kevin.Kerstein@KyDerby.com)

## **CHURCHILL DOWNS RACING CLUB'S WARRIOR'S CLUB TO JOIN THOROUGHBRED RETIREMENT FOUNDATION AT NEWLY FUNDED SANCTUARY FARM AT CHESTNUT HILL**

**LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Thursday, May 13, 2021)** – The **Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation** (“TRF”) will welcome graded stakes winner **Warrior's Club** to the **TRF Sanctuary Farm at Chestnut Hall** through a generous \$30,000 donation from the **Churchill Downs Racing Club**.

“The Churchill Downs Racing Club has been a real thrill and has generated hundreds of new Thoroughbred owners,” said **Gary Palmisano**, Churchill Downs Racing Club Director. “Warrior's Club has taken his members and the club on an incredible journey and he deserves, like all Thoroughbreds, to live out his days in a place where people can visit him and he can enjoy his retirement.”

Warrior's Club was the first horse for the Churchill Downs Racing Club which was started in 2016 and the son of **Warrior's Reward** took the 200 partners involved in his group on a whirlwind ride over the course of four years winning races at marquee tracks across the country with victories at Churchill Downs, Saratoga, Oaklawn and Keeneland. Trained by Hall of Famer **D. Wayne Lukas**, Warrior's Club amassed earnings of over \$850,000 including a victory in the Grade III Commonwealth Stakes at Keeneland Race Course and competed at the sport's highest level, even participating in the Breeders' Cup Sprint (GI).

The Churchill Downs Racing Club has a commitment to aftercare. Through the success of Warrior's Club on the racetrack, the group was able to purchase several other horses, all of whom have gone on to second careers and homes after racing. To date, the club has either claimed back or purchased back all but two horses, both of whom are actively still racing, to ensure safe and happy retirements.

On behalf of Warrior's Club and the Churchill Downs Racing Club donations also were made to **Second Stride**, **New Vocations**, **PDJF** and **Thoroughbred Charities of America**.

The TRF Sanctuary Farm at Chestnut Hall opened in April 2021. The farm, a first-of-its kind, was designed to give the Louisville community and fans from around the world a direct connection to the horses at the heart of horse racing. The new TRF Sanctuary Farm at Chestnut Hall will be the permanent home of 11 horses from the organization's national herd of 500 retired Thoroughbred racehorses. These “herd ambassadors” will serve as educators to tell the story of the long life and diverse second careers that await these equine athletes when their racing days are done. Located on nearly 30 acres of historic farmland in Oldham County and featuring a beautiful farmhouse restored to serve as an event venue, Chestnut Hall has been created for the express purpose of connecting Thoroughbred horses to the people of Louisville, the Commonwealth of Kentucky and beyond. Starting mid-May, the farm will be open to the public for tours through **Visit Horse Country** and will be available as a unique venue for educational events and fundraisers for nonprofits across the Louisville community.

**ARKLOW MADE 7-5 FAVORITE IN SATURDAY'S \$150,000 LOUISVILLE** – **Donegal Racing**, **Joseph Bulger** and the **Estate of Peter Conway's** Grade I-winning turf specialist **Arklow** was made the 7-5 morning line favorite to start his 7-year-old campaign in Saturday's \$150,000 Louisville Stakes (GIII) at Churchill Downs.

Trained by **Brad Cox**, Arklow has been off since winning the \$200,000 Hollywood Turf Cup (GII) nearly six months ago at Del Mar.

“We gave him some time off at the end of last year and he started getting back into race shape this winter at Fair Grounds,” Cox said. “He's been training well since we got him back to Churchill in early April and thought the Louisville would be a good starting point for his campaign this year.”

Saturday's Louisville Stakes, run at 1 ½ miles on the Matt Winn Turf Course, is the featured event on the 11-race program. First post is 12:45 p.m. (all times Eastern) and the Louisville will go as the finale at 6:04 p.m.

Arklow has recorded eight lifetime victories through 31 starts with earnings topping \$2.66 million. Arklow has one victory over the Matt Winn Turf Course four years ago in the American Turf (GII).

Jockey **Florent Geroux**, who has been aboard Arklow for 16 previous starts, has the call from post No. 10.

The field for the Louisville attracted a full gate of 14 horses. The temporary rail will be down for racing Saturday and Sunday on the turf course.

The National Weather Service calls for mostly sunny skies and the temperature at post time for the Louisville in the low 70s. There was no rain scheduled in the forecast until late Saturday evening.

The full field for the Louisville from the rail out (with jockey, trainer and morning line odds): **Artemus Eagle** (Gabriel Saez, Waylon Cundiff 50-1); **Imperador (ARG)** (Joe Talamo, Paolo Lobo, 30-1); **Spooky Channel** (Francisco Arrieta, Jason Barkley, 10-1); **Strong Tide** (Marcelino Pedroza, Mike Lauer, 15-1); **Fantasio (ARG)** (Julien Leparoux, Ignacio Correas IV, 10-1); **Jais's Solitude** (Declan Cannon, Eddie Kenneally, 20-1); **Red Knight** (James Graham, Bill Mott, 6-1); **Fighting Seabee** (Chris Landeros, Kenny McPeck, 20-1); **Monarchs Glen (GB)** (Adam Beschizza, Mike Maker, 20-1); Arklow (Geroux, Cox, 7-5); **Ajourneytofreedom** (Tyler Gaffalione, Maker, 12-1); **Bakers Bay** (Corey Lanerie, Shug McGaughey, 15-1); **Crafty Daddy** (Brian Hernandez, McPeck, 8-1); and **Admiralty Pier** (Drayden Van Dyke, Barbara Minshall, 10-1).

**TV SCHEDULE** – Churchill Downs Racing is scheduled to air every race day on “America’s Day at the Races” on the Fox Sports family of networks. Here is this week’s TV Schedule:

- Thursday: Fox Sports 2 (3-8:30 p.m.)
- Friday: Fox Sports 1 (12:30-3 p.m.) | Fox Sports 2 (5-5:30 p.m.)
- Saturday: Fox Sports 2 (2-6:30 p.m.)
- Sunday: Fox Sports 2 (12:30-5:30 p.m.)

**MEET LEADERS** – Jockeys **Tyler Gaffalione** and **Florent Geroux** had a fast start to their Spring Meet and recorded 10 victories through the first 10 days of racing at the 38-day stand. They have a one-win lead over now New York-based **Luis Saez** and a two win-cushion over **Ricardo Santana Jr.** ... Trainers **Brad Cox** and **Al Stall Jr.** lead the standings with six wins. ... **Juddmonte** tops the owner’s standings with two wins from four starters.

**DOWN THE STRETCH:** Racing beneath the Twin Spires returns Thursday with a special late post of 5 p.m. for Twilight Thursday presented by Blue Moon. Fans can enjoy the eight-race card while sipping on \$1 select domestic beer and \$1 Blue Moon draft. The evening also features live music from **Frankie Moody**, food trucks and more. General admission, which includes an official program, is \$5 and can be purchased on [www.churchilldowns.com/tickets](http://www.churchilldowns.com/tickets). ... There was a \$10,206 carryover in the 20-cent Derby City 6 that spanned races 3-8. ... Live racing will continue Friday-Sunday with first posts of 12:45 p.m. ... Fans can watch and wager on the Preakness Stakes (GI) Saturday from Churchill Downs. A live simulcast of the race will be shown on the Big Board. The Preakness has a post time of approximately 6:47 p.m. ... For more information about the Spring Meet, visit <https://www.churchilldowns.com/calendar/featured-events/>.

#### **ABOUT CHURCHILL DOWNS RACETRACK**

Churchill Downs Racetrack (“CDRT”), the world’s most legendary racetrack, has been the home of The Kentucky Derby, the longest continually held annual sporting event in the United States, since 1875. Located in Louisville, CDRT features a series of themed race days during Derby Week, including the Kentucky Oaks, and conducts Thoroughbred horse racing during three race meets in the Spring, September, and the Fall. CDRT is located on 175 acres and has a one-mile dirt track, a 7/8-mile turf track, a stabling area, and provides seating for approximately 60,000 guests. The saddling paddock and the stable area has barns sufficient to accommodate 1,400 horses and a 114-room dormitory for backstretch personnel. CDRT also has a year-round simulcast wagering facility. [www.ChurchillDowns.com](http://www.ChurchillDowns.com).

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